Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the specification:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method of screening for and /or diagnosis of a cardiovascular disorder in a subject, comprising the steps of:
   i) detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample from said subject, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:
      a. a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:3-5;
      b. a variant, with at least 95% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid: substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3-5; and
      c. a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least ten amino; acids long; and
   ii) comparing said level to that of a control sample, wherein a decrease in said level relative to that of the control is indicative of a cardiovascular disorder.

2. (original) A method of predicting a cardiovascular disorder in a subject, comprising the steps of:
   (a) detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample from said subject, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:
      a. a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:3-5;
      b. a variant, with at least 95% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3-5; and
      c. a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least ten amino acids long; and
   (b) comparing said level to that of a control sample,
   wherein a decrease in said level relative to that of the control indicates a risk of developing a cardiovascular disorder.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said cardiovascular disorder is Coronary Artery Disease (CAD).

4. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein said biological sample is plasma.

5. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein said polypeptide is detected and /or quantified by mass spectrometry.

6. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein said polypeptide is detected and /or quantified by Enzyme-Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay.

7. (original) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:3-4.

8. (original) The polypeptide of claim 7, wherein said polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

9. (original) An isolated polypeptide comprising a variant amino acid sequence, with at least 95% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3-4.

10. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide, which is a fragment of a polypeptide of claim 7 ~~or 9~~, which is a least ten amino acids long.

11. (currently amended) A composition comprising the polypeptide according to claim 7, ~~9 or 10,~~ further comprising a carrier or diluent.

12. (original) The composition of claim 11, wherein said polypeptide is present at an effective amount.

13. (original) An anti-Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) antibody that selectively binds to a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:3-4.

14. (original) A method of binding an antibody to a Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) comprising the steps of:
    i) contacting the antibody of claim 13 with a biological sample under conditions that: permit antibody binding; and
    ii) removing contaminants.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein said antibody is attached to a label group.

16. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein said sample is human plasma.

17. (original) A method of identifying a Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) modulator comprising the steps of:

i) contacting a test compound with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1-5 under sample conditions permissive for at least one CPP biological activity;

ii) determining the level of said at least one CPP biological activity;

iii) comparing said level to that of a control sample lacking said test compound; and

iv) selecting a test compound which causes said level to change for further testing as a CPP modulator for the prophylactic and/or therapeutic treatment of cardiovascular disorders.

18. (currently amended) A method for preventing a cardiovascular disorder, comprising the step of administering the composition of claim 11 ~~or 12~~ to an individual.

19. (currently amended) A method of beating a cardiovascular disorder, comprising the step of administering the composition of claim 11 ~~or 12~~ to an individual.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 18 ~~or 19~~, wherein said composition is administered by injection.